

Christmas Greetings



With grateful thanks to our friends for the pleasure and privilege of serving you.

Gouger & Veno Electric Shop
Pinehurst



Pause...
and Take Time
to recall the

Miracle
of that
First Christmas

and let it bring
Joy into your
hearts throughout
the
New Year!

Margaret's Hair Styling

Margaret Evans and Alicia White
Southern Pines

Our Southern Pines Office
has been consolidated with our
Charlotte Office.

Harold E. Hassenfelt

will serve the Southern Pines area from Charlotte. The address is 110 South Tryon Street and the telephone number is 333-5492. Mr. Hassenfelt will also be available for consultation in Southern Pines on the weekend. He may be reached at Oxford 2-3261.

We invite you to make use of our services.

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Cup Award: Milestone In Blue Career

(Continued from Page 1)
today form the backbone of the Sandhills.

"Representative" is a real word for him. The adjective most used in connection with him is "sincere." The fact that, with honors heaped upon him, he remains a simple citizen of the Sandhills, working for a living as hard as he ever did, and understanding the problems of all levels, is a big secret of his success. One way to get your name in his paper is just to drop in on him at the Sandhill Citizen office at Aberdeen. You forthwith become "a pleasant caller" in his "Musings" column, and he means it, for in such visits he keeps in touch with the people's thoughts and feelings.

He has been pictured on front pages with four Governors under whom he has served—Scott, Umstead, Hodges and Sanford—and on his office wall hangs a photo of Cliff with the late President John F. Kennedy, taken on the occasion of a White House dinner with newspaper publishers as guests.

In Printing Shop

At The Citizen office, you are likely to find him in the composing room shoulder to shoulder with his brother, Malcolm Blue, manager of the mechanical department, helping to put the paper together.

There was a time, up to less than a year ago, you could find him in printer's apron, fingers black with printer's ink from handling the type. The Citizen went to "offset" printing last spring and it's a cleaner operation, but he's been learning just like everybody else at The Citizen and working hard at it.

Coming home on weekends from his chores at the General Assembly, he'd see the people with problems to discuss, work some in every department, write his editorials and get out his column, "People and Issues," comments on doings over the State with emphasis on politics, published in about 20 weekly papers.

The column doesn't really pay enough to justify the time but Cliff enjoys it and, he says, "Some day I won't have so much outside career and I'll have this to fall back on." Also he freely admits, "When I'm not in politics myself, I can get out a better column." Though he frequently makes the biggest news in the county and State, he will very seldom allow his name to go on his own front page, and when he was elected Speaker of the House it wasn't mentioned in "People and Issues."

Education Leader

The Sandhill Citizen, however, like the other papers in the county, gave enormous space to Moore County's campaign for the college, and the accompanying movement to improve the secondary schools. Cliff has in both county and State made his name as a leader in behalf of education.

His own formal education ended with graduation from Vass-Lakeview High School in 1929, which he attended after early years at a one-room, one-teacher schoolhouse in his Lobelia community.

He was born August 29, 1910, on a farm in Little River township then a part of Cumberland County, later Hoke, and since January 1, 1958—through his own legislative action with support of both counties—a part of Moore.

He was one of eight children born with support of both counties—a part of Moore.

He was one of eight children born to John Patrick Blue, who died in 1934, and Christian Stewart Blue, who still lives in Little River Township. Every Sunday he and his family still gather with others of the family at his mother's pleasant, white-frame farmhouse home, where they eat a country dinner she has prepared.

A brother and sister died in infancy. The others are Barney

and Malcolm who live near their mother; Marshall of Winston-Salem; Clarence H. (Pat), of Manly, surveyor with office in Southern Pines, and Kathryn, now Mrs. Bill Roberson, of the Rose-land section near Aberdeen.

After high school graduation the boys worked with their father on the farm, but Cliff who had become interested in history and other social studies, decided there would be more future in printing or newspaper work.

\$1 Per Week

He wrote letters to both Josephus Daniels, the late publisher and editor of the Raleigh News and Observer, and W. F. Morris, editor of the Sandhills Citizen, then published at Southern Pines. Morris asked him to come by for an interview and offered to take him on at \$5 a week, the job not to start till several months later. Cliff accepted, but during the waiting period, Morris died. The young farm boy went to see the late Hiram Westbrook of Southern Pines, Morris's brother-in-law, who was then running the paper, and the upshot was he went to work as a printer's devil December 1, 1930, at just \$1 per week. Depression times had really set in by then.

His pay worked up to \$10 a week but the paper changed hands and he lost his job, couldn't find another, and had to go back to farming at home.

In the summer of 1932, R. P. Beasley, who was associated with Murphy Brewer in a job printing shop at Vass, offered to sell Cliff the equipment—a job press, some type and little else—for \$150. He arranged to pay \$50 down and then \$5 a month—then went out to drum up the \$50.

Those were hard times, and \$5 represented a pretty big sum to most people. Some citizens he asked said they wished him well but had no money to help, and to these he was almost as grateful as to the ones who could and did. Those who came through with a few dollars each as evidence of their faith—which most of them later took out in advertising—were W. D. Matthews, later Southern Pines town attorney and mayor; W. H. McNeill, Henry Graves, Duncan McCrimmon, T. Frank Cameron, W. H. Richardson of Lakeview and Cliff's uncle, D. K. Blue, then Hoke County register of deeds.

Did Everything

Cliff started printing "The Captain" at Vass, with type set at Southern Pines. Everything else he did himself—getting the news and ads, setting the ads and doing job printing, then selling and delivering the paper. With the help of an \$18-a-month school bus driving job he scraped by, though Secretary of State Thad Eure in a speech in his honor recently accused him of driving the school bus so he could deliver papers on the way and thus avoid paying postage.

In 1934 George Ross of Jackson Springs, now retired and back home there after a long, distinguished career in various State offices, bought the assets of the Sandhill Citizen at Southern Pines, combined them with The Pilot, then published at Aberdeen, and sold them, all but the name and one linotype. The old Citizen resumed as The Southern Pines Pilot, with Nelson Hyde as editor and publisher, while George helped Cliff in re-establishing The Citizen. The Captain was combined with it in 1936, with offices at Aberdeen.

Cliff was by then keeping company with Miss Gala Nunnery of Roseboro, who, visiting her sister at Vass, had met the town's young newspaper publisher. Married in 1937, they began house-keeping at Aberdeen.

The Sandhill Citizen thrived, and in 1940 moved into a new building, its present home. The Blues also have a handsome new home, built several years ago on North Poplar Street Extension. They raised three children to ten

years, then a fourth came along, six years ago.

Two Grandchildren

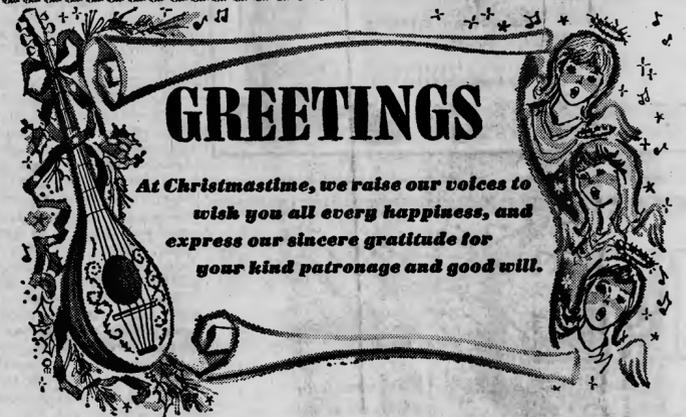
The family of four children has been augmented by two grandchildren, Patsy, 24, is married to David Bailey, son of the late Judge D. E. Bailey of Southern Pines, and they live at Kensington, Md., where David works as

a nuclear scientist in a government position. They have a young son, David, Jr., and daughter, Allison.

The Blues' other children are Clifton, Jr., 22, who entered the Army this fall and is stationed at Fort Gordon, Ga.; John Lee, 18, who graduated from Aberdeen High school in June and is now

studying at the Lee County Industrial Education Center at Sanford; and Elizabeth Anne who started school this year.

Always active in his community, Cliff helped found the Aberdeen Lions club and held numerous offices, all the way up to zone chairman, until his political (Continued on Page 15)



At Christmastime, we raise our voices to wish you all every happiness, and express our sincere gratitude for your kind patronage and good will.

Austin Business Machine Co.
Southern Pines

Christmas Lights

The lovely lights of Christmastime—
They make the world a glad some place!
Starlight softly drifting down,
The same that shone on Mary's face;
Tall altar-candles' golden gleam,
And firelight flickering cozily;
Dancing lights in children's eyes
When first they see the glistening tree;
Bright lamplight streaming cheerily
From doors flung wide and welcoming;
Lantern beams that bob and glow
As neighbors come a-carolling.

The lovely lights of Christmastime—
They make the world a wondrous place,
And light our way until at last
We see the glory of His face

Maureen Murdock

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
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